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# NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

22859

7590

05/12/2010

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP FREDRIKSON & BYRON, P.A. 200 SOUTH SIXTH STREET, SUITE 4000 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402

EXAMINER				
COMINGS, DANIEL C				
ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER				

3744 DATE MAILED; 05/12/2010

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	IRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	
10/588,387	08/04/2006	Mauro Zenobi	47966.25.1	7138

TITLE OF INVENTION: APPARATUS FOR RECEIVING, STORING AND PROVIDING BAGS OF BLOOD

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	08/12/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

#### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

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If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

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If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

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B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

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III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

### PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

### Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE

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									(Signature)
									(Date)
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVEN	ГOR		ATTO:	RNEY DOCKET NO.	CONE	FIRMATION NO.
10/588,387	08/04/2006		Mauro Zenobi				47966.25.1		7138
APPLN, TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	CEIVING, STORING A	PUBLICATION FEE D		PREV. PAID ISSUE	EEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE		DATE DUE
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nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300 T	_	\$0		\$1810		08/12/2010
EXAM		ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS						
COMINGS,		3744	062-378000						
Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 FR 1.363).  Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.		nge of Correspondence  ' Indication form	or agents OR, alter (2) the name of a s registered attorney 2 registered patent	the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys agents OR, alternatively, the name of a single firm (having as a member a gistered attorney or agent) and the names of up to egistered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is led, no name will be printed.					
PLEASE NOTE: Uni recordation as set fort (A) NAME OF ASSIG	less an assignee is identi h in 37 CFR 3.11. Comp GNEE	A TO BE PRINTED ON T ified below, no assignee oletion of this form is NO	data will appear on the Ta substitute for filing (B) RESIDENCE: (C	ne pa g an a	tent. If an assigne ssignment. and STATE OR CO	DUNT	RY)		
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10/588,387	08/04/2006	Mauro Zenobi	47966.25.1	7138
22859 75	90 05/12/2010		EXAM	IINER
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP		COMINGS,	DANIEL C	
FREDRIKSON &	,		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
200 SOUTH SIXTH STREET, SUITE 4000 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402			3744 DATE MAILED: 05/12/201	0

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 537 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 537 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (http://pair.uspto.gov).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)		
	10/588,387	ZENOBI, MAURO		
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit		
	Daniel C. Comings	3744		
The MAILING DATE of this communication app All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85 NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.31	S (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in i) or other appropriate commu RIGHTS. This application is s	this application. If not included inication will be mailed in due course. <b>THIS</b>		
1. This communication is responsive to 14 April 2010.				
2. 🛮 The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>12-26</u> .				
<ol> <li>Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority unally All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:</li> <li>Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</li> <li>* Certified copies not received:</li> </ol>	re been received. re been received in Applicatio	n No		
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDON! THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		a reply complying with the requirements		
<ol> <li>A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subm INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which given</li> </ol>				
<ul> <li>5.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") mu         (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsper</li></ul>	rson's Patent Drawing Review r's Amendment / Comment or 1.84(c)) should be written on the the header according to 37 CF osit of BIOLOGICAL MATE	in the Office action of ne drawings in the front (not the back) of R 1.121(d). ERIAL must be submitted. Note the		
<ul> <li>Attachment(s)</li> <li>1. ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</li> <li>2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</li> <li>3. ☑ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),</li></ul>	6.  ☐ Interview St Paper No./ 7.  ☑ Examiner's	formal Patent Application  ummary (PTO-413),  Mail Date  Amendment/Comment  Statement of Reasons for Allowance		

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### **DETAILED ACTION**

## Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after allowance or after an Office action under *Ex Parte Quayle*, 25 USPQ 74, 453 O.G. 213 (Comm'r Pat. 1935). Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 14 April 2010 has been entered.

### Examiner's Amendment

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney John Parzych on 7 January 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 12, lines 21-22, the phrase --for reading cell identification means-- has been inserted between "said reading device" and "controlled by the processing system".

### Reasons for Allowance

Art Unit: 3744

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record when considered as a whole, alone or in combination, neither anticipates nor renders obvious: an apparatus for storing and supplying bags of blood comprising a cabinet, a refrigerated space for containing the bags, each bag having a bag identification means, a magazine in the refrigerated space having a plurality of cells arranged in a plurality of superposed levels and each capable of containing one bag of blood, each cell further having a univocal cell code independent of its level and position and a cell identification means capable of containing and/or retrieving cell codes, at least one door to allow an operator to access the cells, a movement system capable of moving the cells, a cooling system capable of cooling the refrigerated space, a processing system controlling the cooling and movement systems, a reading device for reading bag identification means connected to the processing system and located at the walls of the cabinet, at least one reading device for reading cell identification means connected to the processing system and having at least one movement member controlled by the processing unit and a machine space for containing the movement system, the cooling system and the processing system (separated from the refrigerated space) as taught in instant independent claim 12.

German Publication No. DE 4418005 A1 to Scheuer teaches a cupboard for storing blood plasma units having a cabinet having binary codes so that units (bags)) can be rapidly identified and accessed, a number of motor driven turntables on which the units are arranged and an associated computer storing details about the number of

free and occupied storage places. The cabinet is taught to have a hatch for accessing the units, a pipe for adding cooling air to the cabinet and a reader for reading the unit codes. Scheuer does not teach the computer controlling the cooling system the presence of cell identification means, the use of a number of reading devices for reading cell identification means, the reading devices having a number of movement members associated therewith and controlled by the computer or the use of a separate machine space for containing the computer, the turntable motor(s) and the cooling system as in instant claim 12.

Italian Publication No. IT UD 96A000073 to Angelantoni Industrie teaches a refrigerated storage device for containing bags of blood in individual cells each bag having identification data and each cell having an encoded location, there being an "acquiring data means" for acquiring data regarding the blood units, processing means coupled with the acquiring data means. Further it is suggested in fig. 3 but not explicitly taught in the English language abstract that there is also a door for accessing plural layers of the storage space, a movement system for moving the shelves, and a plurality of devices (shown at 36) for reading cell identification means. Angelantoni does not teach the processing system controlling the movement and cooling systems, the cell identification readers being supplied with movement members (Angelantoni teaches a plurality of such readers in various locations rather than readers movable between locations) and the processing, cooling and movement systems being located in a separate machine space as in instant claim 12.

US Patent No. 6,688,123 B2 to Felder et al. teaches an automated storage and retrieval apparatus for containing biological samples, the apparatus including a freezer compartment, a storage carousel having a plurality of layers each with a plurality of storage locations for containing storage containers which are identifiable by barcodes, a barcode reader for scanning the barcodes to identify storage containers as they are inserted into or removed form the device and an exterior door for depositing and withdrawing containers which are automatically moved to and from storage positions on the carousel. Felder does not teach the door providing access to the cells (but rather to a single automatically retrieved container) nor does Felder teach the storage locations having univocal codes or identification means and further does not teach the use of a reader for such identification means or such a reader being mounted on a movement member. Finally, Felder fails to teach the use of a separated machine compartment within the cabinet in which the movement system, cooling system and processing system are located as in instant claim 12.

US Patent No. 7,527,764 B2 to Angelantoni et al. teaches an automated system for conserving samples (not explicitly taught to be blood) in a temperature controlled enclosure, the system having a temperature control means and a set of moving disks each having a plurality of storage locations in which samples are placed for storage by "a Cartesian robotic system" equipped to deposit and retrieve such samples which may be an input/output drawer through which the a user may add and remove samples to be

stored by the robotic system and a sample identifying means. Angelantoni does not teach the use of any means for identifying the individual storage locations and as such does not teach a reader for reading this identification or such a reader being controlled by the cabinet's control system as in instant claim 12. Furthermore Angelantoni does not teach the movement and cooling systems sharing a common controller.

US Patent No. 5,842,179 to Beavers et al. teaches a freezer having a plurality of drawers therein each comprising a plurality of locations in which a laboratory specimen may be stored. The freezer is taught to comprise a computerized inventory system for recording the location of each specimen stored therein. Beavers does not teach the system having any movement system for moving the drawers in which the specimens are placed, teaching the drawers to be constructed similarly to commonly known kitchen drawers. Beavers further fails to teach the use of any specimen or location identification means or reading means for such identification as taught in instant claim 12 but rather teaches an inventory system that merely records the location at which a specimen was manually placed as manually input by a user.

Japanese Publication No. 200-116767 to Hirota et al. teaches a system for blood collection having a compartment in which a platform (saucer 2) is disposed to support a bag of blood and to shake (move) the bag of blood as the platform swings and the bag is weighed. The system further comprises a means for reading data stored in a label on the bag of blood. Hirota does not teach the compartment having a cooling system or

Page 7

movement. Furthermore, Hirota does not teach the presence of multiple storage cells

and thus does not teach these cells being superposed on levels or having identification

codes and further fails to teach the use of any reader for reading such cell identification

means as in instant claim 12.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later

than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on

Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Daniel C. Comings whose telephone number is 571-

270-7385. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:00-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Frantz Jules or Cheryl Tyler can be reached on 571-272-6681 or 571-272-

4834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding

is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Art Unit: 3744

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

/Daniel C Comings/ Examiner, Art Unit 3744 April 20, 2010

/Frantz F. Jules/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3744

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.